

SEP 24 1925

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THE SUBSTITUTE WIFE ✓

Photoplay in 6 reels ✓✓

Story by Katherine Smith ✓✓

Directed by Wilfred May

Author of the photoplay (under section 62)  
Arrow Pictures Corporation of U.S.

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## SYNOPSIS OF "THE SUBSTITUTE WIFE"

Hilda Nevers is called back from the Red Cross work which she is doing in the Far East - where she has gone to aid the sufferers of the Japanese earthquake - by the illness of her father. Shortly thereafter he dies, leaving his family penniless and Hilda takes up her Red Cross work again, this time in a hospital where Dr. Kitchell is one of the leading spirits.

Dr. Kitchell is much impressed by the strange similarity in voices between Hilda and Evelyn Wentworth, a girl whom he has loved madly, but hopelessly, for years. Evelyn, a heartless little gold digger, marries Lawrence Sinton for his money. On their wedding night Sinton is knocked unconscious by a burglar. The blow blinds him and Dr. Kitchell, called in to attend him, sees his opportunity. Remembering the resemblance in voice between Hilda and Evelyn, he seeks out Hilda and gets her to take Evelyn's place on the plea that her (Evelyn's) nervous system has been ravaged by the disaster which has overtaken her husband. Then he and Evelyn find themselves free to indulge their illicit love. Poor Hilda - the substitute wife - becomes daily more enamored of the man she is attending, while he, in turn, believing her to be actually his wife, loves her with passionate adoration.

This strange condition continues until the return from abroad of Victor Bronson, Sinton's attorney, who has previously known and loved Hilda. Quickly realizing the true state of affairs, he threatens to disclose the truth to Sinton. Hilda, however, dissuades him, but later on - discovering that Sinton's injury is in reality not serious and that the conscienceless Dr. Kitchell has merely kept him blind when in reality a minor operation could have restored his sight - she seeks out a famous French eye surgeon, even despite the realization that in so doing she will lose ~~everything~~ forever the man she loves.

The operation takes place and is, of course, successful. Then, at a meeting engineered by Bronson, the truth is disclosed to Sinton and the guilty wife and her paramour are unmasked. Abashed, they slink away and with the onlooker is left a realization that shortly the path of happiness will be opened up to true love.

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